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Consumer Price Index for Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater – January 2020 **Area prices up 0.7 percent since November and 3.8 percent over the year**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater increased 0.7 percent from November to January, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the all items less food and energy index rose 0.6 percent since November. The food index increased 1.2 percent over the bi-monthly period, while the energy index was little changed, up 0.1 percent. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, bi-monthly changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

The all items CPI-U increased 3.8 percent from January 2019 to January 2020. The all items less food and energy index advanced 3.7 percent over the past 12 months. The energy and the food indexes also increased over the year, up 6.8 and 2.9 percent, respectively. ([See table 1.](#))

Food

The food index rose 1.2 percent from November to January, led by a 1.8-percent increase in the food away from home index. The food at home index rose 0.6 percent over the bi-monthly period.

The food index advanced 2.9 percent for the 12 months ending January, reflecting increases in the food away from home (4.7 percent) and the food at home (1.4 percent) indexes.

Energy

The energy index was little changed from November to January, up 0.1 percent. A 2.1-percent increase in the gasoline index was largely offset by a 2.2-percent decline in the electricity index. The utility (piped) gas service index was unchanged over the bi-monthly period.

The energy index advanced 6.8 percent for the 12 months ending January, reflecting a 14.6-percent increase in the gasoline index. Over the past year, the utility (piped) gas service index rose 2.0 percent, while the electricity index declined 0.8 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.6 percent from November to January. Several indexes increased since November including shelter (0.7 percent), new vehicles (3.8 percent), and recreation (2.0 percent).

Since January 2019, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.7 percent, led by increases in the shelter and new vehicles indexes, up 3.9 and 11.4 percent, respectively.

Table A. Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL, CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2018		2019		2020	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
January.....	0.8		-1.1	0.4	0.7	3.8
March	0.6		1.9	1.7		
May.....	0.4		0.9	2.2		
July	0.3		0.1	2.1		
September.....	0.6		-0.1	1.5		
November.....	-0.3	2.3	0.2	2.0		

The Consumer Price Index for February 2020 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments—department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The **Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Core Based Statistical Area** includes Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL (1987=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019	Jan. 2020	Jan. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019
Expenditure category						
All Items.....	229.740	-	231.258	3.8	0.7	-
Food and beverages	232.029	-	234.623	3.0	1.1	-
Food	231.985	-	234.751	2.9	1.2	-
Food at home	230.744	232.835	232.141	1.4	0.6	-0.3
Cereals and bakery products	259.521	-	257.632	0.1	-0.7	-
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	215.019	-	227.320	5.5	5.7	-
Dairy and related products	213.004	-	214.498	2.9	0.7	-
Fruits and vegetables	321.811	-	322.268	1.0	0.1	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....	174.689	-	172.481	0.7	-1.3	-
Other food at home	191.340	-	186.209	-2.3	-2.7	-
Food away from home.....	232.462	-	236.739	4.7	1.8	-
Alcoholic beverages	217.243	-	217.605	5.3	0.2	-
Housing	234.893	-	236.285	3.5	0.6	-
Shelter	269.779	270.348	271.608	3.9	0.7	0.5
Rent of primary residence	275.480	276.633	278.046	4.7	0.9	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences	283.855	284.300	285.950	3.7	0.7	0.6
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence	283.855	284.300	285.950	3.7	0.7	0.6
Fuels and utilities.....	212.014	-	209.111	0.3	-1.4	-
Household energy	167.006	167.010	163.409	-0.7	-2.2	-2.2
Energy Services	164.525	164.525	160.956	-0.8	-2.2	-2.2
Electricity	161.639	161.639	158.020	-0.8	-2.2	-2.2
Utility (piped) gas service	240.646	240.635	240.635	2.0	0.0	0.0
Household furnishings and operations	122.613	-	125.097	4.3	2.0	-
Apparel	133.286	-	129.124	-11.4	-3.1	-
Transportation	201.157	-	202.859	8.0	0.8	-
Private transportation	204.900	-	208.071	7.8	1.5	-
New and used motor vehicles(1).....	107.313	-	109.169	8.0	1.7	-
New vehicles	121.658	-	126.321	11.4	3.8	-
Used cars and trucks.....	132.095	-	130.247	-2.5	-1.4	-
Motor fuel	258.472	270.896	264.292	14.6	2.3	-2.4
Gasoline (all types).....	252.960	265.192	258.299	14.6	2.1	-2.6
Unleaded regular(2)	245.012	258.249	250.582	15.8	2.3	-3.0
Unleaded midgrade(2)(3)	233.651	235.660	236.032	6.6	1.0	0.2
Unleaded premium(2).....	279.173	281.398	281.742	6.1	0.9	0.1
Motor vehicle insurance	581.255	-	581.255	2.2	0.0	-
Medical Care	406.881	-	410.600	5.3	0.9	-
Recreation(1).....	123.280	-	125.733	2.7	2.0	-
Education and communication(1).....	133.627	-	133.162	2.0	-0.3	-
Tuition, other school fees, and child care	630.519	-	630.519	1.8	0.0	-
Other goods and services	304.852	-	303.929	0.6	-0.3	-
Commodity and service group						
All Items.....	229.740	-	231.258	3.8	0.7	-
Commodities	172.047	-	174.268	3.4	1.3	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....	141.673	-	143.652	3.7	1.4	-
Nondurables less food & beverages	201.403	-	202.248	1.6	0.4	-
Durables	90.181	-	92.376	5.9	2.4	-
Services.....	280.963	-	281.896	4.0	0.3	-
Special aggregate indexes						

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL (1987=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019	Jan. 2020	Jan. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019
All items less medical care	220.221	-	221.629	3.7	0.6	-
All items less shelter.....	213.224	-	214.594	3.8	0.6	-
Commodities less food	145.250	-	147.199	3.7	1.3	-
Nondurables	216.844	-	218.716	2.4	0.9	-
Nondurables less food.....	202.574	-	203.452	1.9	0.4	-
Services less rent of shelter	290.270	-	289.880	4.2	-0.1	-
Services less medical care services.....	267.175	-	267.881	3.8	0.3	-
Energy	202.552	207.592	202.828	6.8	0.1	-2.3
All items less energy	231.759	-	233.346	3.6	0.7	-
All items less food and energy	231.947	-	233.350	3.7	0.6	-

Footnotes

(1) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(2) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(3) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.